

The WED principle and the evolution of microstructures

Ulisse Stefanelli

CNR - Pavia

Jointly with: Goro Akagi (Shibaura, Tokyo)
Alexander Mielke (WIAS, Berlin)



BioSMA
Mathematics for Shape Memory
Technologies in Biomechanics

www.imati.cnr.it/biosma

WED = Weighted Energy-Dissipation

→ variational principle for dissipative evolution systems

WED = Weighted Energy-Dissipation

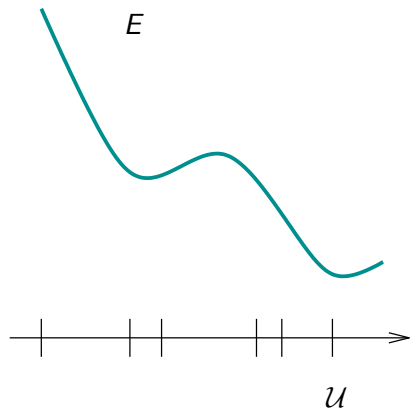
→ variational principle for dissipative evolution systems

Outline

- 1 recall some **variational tools** for dissipative evolution
- 2 describe the **WED formalism** and the results
- 3 outline the relations with **microstructure evolution**

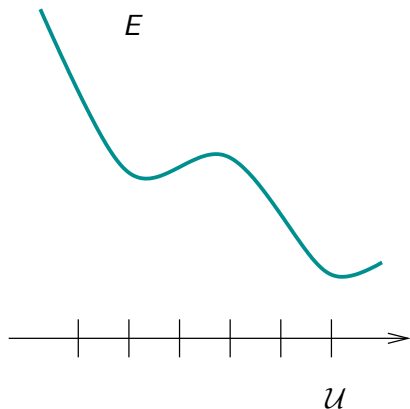
Dissipative evolution

$$D\psi(u_t) + D_u E(t, u) = 0$$



- $t \mapsto u(t) \in \mathcal{U}$ state
- $(t, u) \mapsto E(t, u)$ energy
- $\psi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ dissipation

Gradient flows



$$E : [0, T] \times \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Energy

$$\psi(\cdot) = \frac{1}{2} |\cdot|^2$$

Dissipation

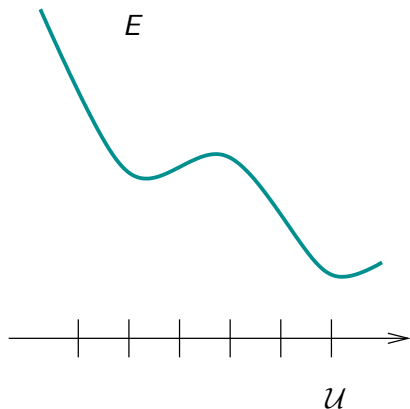
Gradient flow:

$$\begin{cases} u_t + D_u E(t, u) = 0 \\ u(0) = u_0 \end{cases}$$

Gradient flows in applications

- heat, linear parabolic
- parabolic variational inequalities, ODEs with constraints
- degenerate parabolic, quasilinear, p -Laplacian
- mean curvature for graphs
- viscoelasticity
- Stefan, porous media
- reaction-diffusion, Allen-Cahn,
- phase field, Penrose-Fife systems
- ...

Rate-independent flows



$$E : [0, T] \times \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Energy

$$\psi(\cdot) = |\cdot|$$

Dissipation

Rate-independent flow:

$$\begin{cases} \partial\psi(u_t) + D_u E(t, u) \ni 0 \\ u(0) = u_0 \end{cases}$$

Rate-independent flows in applications

- Elastoplasticity, friction
- Damage, fractures
- ferromagnetism
- Hele-Shaw
- ...

Rate-independent flows in applications

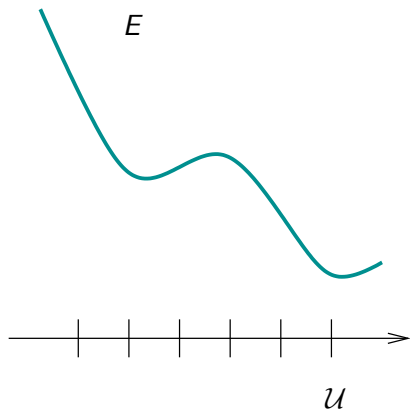
- Elastoplasticity, friction
- Damage, fractures
- ferromagnetism
- Hele-Shaw
- ...

$$\partial\psi(u_t) + D_u E(t, u) \ni 0, \quad \alpha : [0, T] \rightarrow [0, T] \text{ incr.}$$

$$\Rightarrow v = u \circ \alpha \text{ solves } \partial\psi(v_t) + D_v E(\alpha(t), v) \ni 0$$

Viscous p -flows

$$1 < p < \infty$$



$$E : [0, T] \times \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Energy

$$\psi(\cdot) = \frac{1}{p} |\cdot|^p$$

Dissipation

Viscous p -flow:

$$\begin{cases} |u_t|^{p-2} u_t + D_u E(t, u) \ni 0 \\ u(0) = u_0 \end{cases}$$

The Aim

State dissipative evolution as a minimization over entire trajectories

$$D\psi(u_t) + D_u E(t, u) = 0 \iff F(u) = \min F$$

The Aim

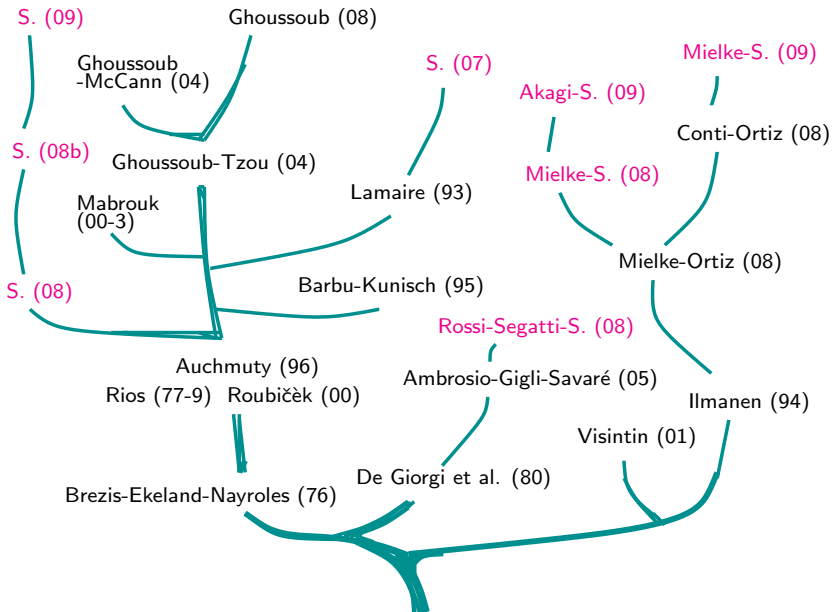
State dissipative evolution as a minimization over entire trajectories

$$D\psi(u_t) + D_u E(t, u) = 0 \iff F(u) = \min F$$

... and use the Calculus of Variations:

- Direct Method
- Γ -convergence
- relaxation
- ...

Not a new idea



Brezis-Ekeland-Nayroles' principle (76)

$$\text{minimize: } u \mapsto \int_0^T (E(u) + E^*(-\dot{u})) + \frac{1}{2}|u(T)|^2 - \frac{1}{2}|u_0|^2$$

Brezis-Ekeland-Nayroles' principle (76)

$$\text{minimize: } u \mapsto \int_0^T (E(u) + E^*(-\dot{u})) + \frac{1}{2}|u(T)|^2 - \frac{1}{2}|u_0|^2$$

- Direct Method [Nayroles \(76\)](#), [Rios \(77-79\)](#), [Auchmuty \(88-93\)](#), [Roubíček \(00\)](#), [Ghoussoub-Tzou \(04\)](#)... [Ghoussoub \(08\)](#)
- Long-time [Lemaire \(96\)](#)
- Second order equations [Mabrouk \(00-03\)](#)
- Mild non-convexity [Ghoussoub-McCann \(04\)](#)

Brezis-Ekeland-Nayroles' principle (76)

$$\text{minimize: } u \mapsto \int_0^T (E(u) + E^*(-\dot{u})) + \frac{1}{2}|u(T)|^2 - \frac{1}{2}|u_0|^2$$

- Direct Method [Nayroles \(76\)](#), [Rios \(77-79\)](#), [Auchmuty \(88-93\)](#), [Roubíček \(00\)](#), [Ghoussoub-Tzou \(04\)](#)... [Ghoussoub \(08\)](#)
- Long-time [Lemaire \(96\)](#)
- Second order equations [Mabrouk \(00-03\)](#)
- Mild non-convexity [Ghoussoub-McCann \(04\)](#)

- Doubly nonlinear, approximations, time-discrete [S. \(08\)](#), [S. \(07\)](#)
- Rate-independent, plasticity [S. \(08b\)](#), [S. \(09\)](#)

De Giorgi's principle (80)

$$\text{minimize: } u \mapsto E(u(T)) - E(u_0) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |\dot{u}|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |DE(u)|^2$$

De Giorgi's principle (80)

$$\text{minimize: } u \mapsto E(u(T)) - E(u_0) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |\dot{u}|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |DE(u)|^2$$

- Metric interpretation De Giorgi-Marino-Tosques (80),
Marino-Saccon-Tosques (89), ... Ambrosio-Gigli-Savaré (05)
- Doubly nonlinear version for $\psi(\dot{u}) = p(|\dot{u}|)$ Mielke, Rossi, Savaré (08)

De Giorgi's principle (80)

$$\text{minimize: } u \mapsto E(u(T)) - E(u_0) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |\dot{u}|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |DE(u)|^2$$

- Metric interpretation De Giorgi-Marino-Tosques (80),
Marino-Saccon-Tosques (89), ... Ambrosio-Gigli-Savaré (05)
- Doubly nonlinear version for $\psi(\dot{u}) = p(|\dot{u}|)$ Mielke, Rossi, Savaré (08)
- Long-time Rossi, Segatti, S. (08)

Three principles

for gradient flows $u_t + DE(u) = 0$

Consider $F_t(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t |\dot{u}|^2 + E(u(t))$ and **order** $\{u(0) = u_0\}$ as

$$u \lesssim v \quad \text{iff} \quad \begin{cases} \text{either } u \equiv v \text{ or} \\ \text{letting } t_0 = \inf\{t : u(t) \neq v(t)\}, \\ F_t(u) < F_t(v) \text{ in } (t, t + \delta) \text{ for some } \delta > 0 \end{cases}$$

Visintin's principle (01)

Find a minimal element with respect to \lesssim

Three principles

for gradient flows $u_t + DE(u) = 0$

Consider $F_t(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t |\dot{u}|^2 + E(u(t))$ and **order** $\{u(0) = u_0\}$ as

$$u \lesssim v \quad \text{iff} \quad \begin{cases} \text{either } u \equiv v \text{ or} \\ \text{letting } t_0 = \inf\{t : u(t) \neq v(t)\}, \\ F_t(u) < F_t(v) \text{ in } (t, t + \delta) \text{ for some } \delta > 0 \end{cases}$$

Visintin's principle (01)

Find a minimal element with respect to \lesssim

- Doubly nonlinear, no convexity
- Minimal elements generally fail to exist

The WED functional

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \int_0^T e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\psi(u_t) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} E(t, u) \right) dt$$

The WED functional

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \int_0^T e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\psi(u_t) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} E(t, u) \right) dt$$

The WED functional

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \int_0^T e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\psi(u_t) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} E(t, u) \right) dt$$

The WED functional

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \int_0^T e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\psi(u_t) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} E(t, u) \right) dt$$

WED principle

Minimize W_ε in $\{u(0) = u_0\}$

The WED functional

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \int_0^T e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\psi(u_t) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} E(t, u) \right) dt$$

WED principle

Minimize W_ε in $\{u(0) = u_0\}$

Euler-Lagrange equations + IC

$$-\varepsilon \partial_t D\psi(u_t) + D\psi(u_t) + D_u E(t, u) = 0$$

$$u(0) = u_0$$

$$D\psi(u_t(T)) = 0$$

The WED functional

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \int_0^T e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\psi(u_t) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} E(t, u) \right) dt$$

WED principle

Minimize W_ε in $\{u(0) = u_0\}$

Euler-Lagrange equations + IC

$$-\varepsilon \partial_t D\psi(u_t) + D\psi(u_t) + D_u E(t, u) = 0$$

$$u(0) = u_0$$

$$D\psi(u_t(T)) = 0$$

The WED functional

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \int_0^T e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\psi(u_t) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} E(t, u) \right) dt$$

WED principle

Minimize W_ε in $\{u(0) = u_0\}$

Euler-Lagrange equations + IC

$$\begin{aligned} -\varepsilon \partial_t D\psi(u_t) + D\psi(u_t) + D_u E(t, u) &= 0 \\ u(0) &= u_0 \\ D\psi(u_t(T)) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Elliptic regularization \longrightarrow causal limit $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$

The WED functional

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \int_0^T e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\psi(u_t) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} E(t, u) \right) dt$$

WED principle

Minimize W_ε in $\{u(0) = u_0\}$

Euler-Lagrange equations + IC

$$\begin{aligned} -\varepsilon \partial_t D\psi(u_t) + D\psi(u_t) + D_u E(t, u) &= 0 \\ u(0) &= u_0 \\ D\psi(u_t(T)) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Elliptic regularization \longrightarrow causal limit $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$

The WED literature

The WED literature

- Lions-Magenes (72)

linear

The WED literature

- Lions-Magenes (72)

linear

- Ilmanen (94)

mean curvature

The WED literature

- Lions-Magenes (72)

linear

- Ilmanen (94)

mean curvature

- Mielke-Ortiz (08)

rate-independent

The WED literature

- Lions-Magenes (72) linear
- Ilmanen (94) mean curvature
- Mielke-Ortiz (08) rate-independent
- Mielke-S. (08) time-discrete rate-independent

The WED literature

- Lions-Magenes (72) linear
- Ilmanen (94) mean curvature
- Mielke-Ortiz (08) rate-independent
- Mielke-S. (08) time-discrete rate-independent
- Conti-Ortiz (08) gradient flows, two ex. of relaxation

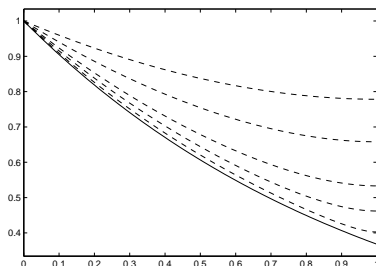
The WED literature

- Lions-Magenes (72) linear
- Ilmanen (94) mean curvature
- Mielke-Ortiz (08) rate-independent
- Mielke-S. (08) time-discrete rate-independent
- Conti-Ortiz (08) gradient flows, two ex. of relaxation
- Mielke-S. (09) causal limit for gradient flows
- Akagi-S. causal limit for viscous p -flows

Causal limit for gradient flows

$$\mathcal{U} = \mathbb{R}, \quad E(t, u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2, \quad u_0 = 1, \quad T = 1, \quad (u(t) = e^{-t})$$

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \int_0^1 e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\frac{1}{2}\dot{u}^2 + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon}u^2 \right) dt$$



The causal limit for gradient flows

$$\mathcal{U} = \mathbb{R}, \quad E(t, u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2, \quad u_0 = 1, \quad T = 1, \quad (u(t) = e^{-t})$$

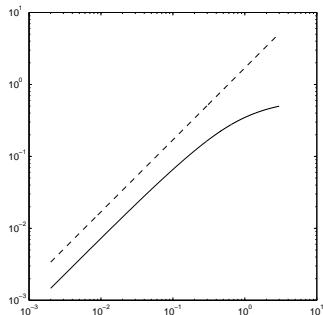


Figure: $\varepsilon \mapsto \|u - u_\varepsilon\|_{C[0, T]}$

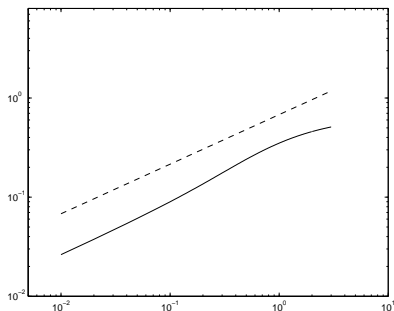


Figure: $\varepsilon \mapsto \|u - u_\varepsilon\|_{H^1(0, T)}$

Causal limit for gradient flows

space: $\mathcal{U} = \text{Hilbert}$

dissip.: $\psi(\dot{u}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\dot{u}\|_{\mathcal{U}}^2$

energy: $E(t, u) = \phi(u)$ ϕ is λ -convex, proper, l.s.c.

datum: $\phi(u_0) < \infty$

Mielke-S.

$$u_\varepsilon(t) \rightarrow u(t) \quad \text{uniformly}$$

where u solves the gradient flow

$$u_t + \partial\phi(u) \ni 0$$

Causal limit for gradient flows

More precisely:

Causal limit for gradient flows

More precisely:

- sharp rate estimate

$$\max_t \|u(t) - u_\varepsilon(t)\|_{\mathcal{U}} \leq c \varepsilon^{1/2}$$

Causal limit for gradient flows

More precisely:

- sharp rate estimate

$$\max_t \|u(t) - u_\varepsilon(t)\|_{\mathcal{U}} \leq c \varepsilon^{1/2}$$

- convergence in H^s , $s < 1$

$$\|u - u_\varepsilon\|_{H^s(0,T;\mathcal{U})} \leq c \varepsilon^{(1-s)/2}$$

Causal limit for gradient flows

More precisely:

- sharp rate estimate

$$\max_t \|u(t) - u_\varepsilon(t)\|_{\mathcal{U}} \leq c \varepsilon^{1/2}$$

- convergence in H^s , $s < 1$

$$\|u - u_\varepsilon\|_{H^s(0,T;\mathcal{U})} \leq c \varepsilon^{(1-s)/2}$$

- more general data

$$u_0 \notin D(\phi) \subset \overline{D(\phi)}, \quad \text{r.h.s. } f \in L^2(0, T; \mathcal{U})$$

Causal limit for rate-independent problems

space: $\mathcal{U} = \text{Banach}$

dissip.: $\psi(\dot{u}) \geq c_\psi \|\dot{u}\|_{\mathcal{U}}$

energy: $E(t, u)$ weakly l.s.c., **compact sublevels**, smooth in t

datum: $\phi(u_0) < E(0, u) + \psi(u - u_0) \quad \forall u \in \mathcal{U}$

Mielke-Ortiz 08

$$u_\varepsilon(t) \rightarrow u(t) \quad \text{pointwise}$$

where u solves in an **energetic solution** of the rate-independent problem $\partial\psi(u_t) + DE(t, u) \ni 0$ and $u(0) = u_0$

space: $\mathcal{U} = L^p(\Omega)$

dissip.: $\psi(u_t) = \frac{1}{p} \int_{\Omega} |u_t|^p$

energy: $E(t, u) = \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{1}{q} |\nabla u|^q + \phi(u) \right)$ ($p < q^*$)

datum: u_0 smooth

Akagi-S.

$$u_{\varepsilon}(t) \rightarrow u(t) \quad \text{uniformly in } L^p(\Omega)$$

where u solves the doubly nonlinear relation

$$|u_t|^{p-2} u_t - \Delta_q u + \partial\phi(u) \ni 0.$$

Microstructures

$$E : L^2(-1, 1) \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty]$$

energy

$$E(u) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 u^2 & \text{if } |u_x| = 1 \text{ a.e.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\min\{E(u) : u(-1) = u(1) = 0\}$$



Relaxation

$$\text{sc}^- E(u) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 u^2 & \text{if } |u_x| \leq 1 \text{ a.e.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\min\{\text{sc}^- E(u) : u(-1) = u(1) = 0\}$$



Microstructure evolution

gradient flow

$$u_t + D_u E(u) = 0$$

Microstructure evolution

gradient flow

$$u_t + D_u E(u) = 0$$

Variational program

- 1 Minimize W_ϵ

Microstructure evolution

gradient flow

$$u_t + D_u E(u) = 0$$

Variational program

1 Minimize W_ε \longrightarrow Relax W_ε \longrightarrow Minimize $sc^- W_\varepsilon$

Microstructure evolution

gradient flow

$$u_t + D_u E(u) = 0$$

Variational program

- 1 Minimize W_ε \longrightarrow Relax W_ε \longrightarrow Minimize $sc^- W_\varepsilon$
- 2 Take $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$

The Conti-Ortiz example

$$\mathcal{U} = L^2(-1, 1)$$

$$\psi(u_t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 u_t^2(x) dx$$

$$E(t, u) = \begin{cases} - \int_{-1}^1 f(t, x) u(x) dx & \text{if } |u_x| = 1 \text{ a.e.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

The Conti-Ortiz example

The corresponding WED functional

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \begin{cases} \int_0^T \int_{-1}^1 e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\frac{1}{2} u_t^2 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f u \right) dx dt & \text{if } |u_x| = 1 \text{ a.e.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

The Conti-Ortiz example

The corresponding WED functional

$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \begin{cases} \int_0^T \int_{-1}^1 e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\frac{1}{2} u_t^2 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f u \right) dx dt & \text{if } |u_x| = 1 \text{ a.e.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

and its relaxation w.r.t. the weak topology of H^1 in $\{u(0, \cdot) = 0\}$ is

$$\text{sc}^- W_\varepsilon(u) = \begin{cases} \int_0^T \int_{-1}^1 e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\frac{1}{2} u_t^2 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f u \right) dx dt & \text{if } |u_x| \leq 1 \text{ a.e.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

The Conti-Ortiz example

The relaxation corresponds to

$$E_{\text{eff}}(t, u) = \int_{-1}^1 \left(I_{[-1,1]}(u_x(x)) - f(t, x) u(x) \right) dx$$

The Conti-Ortiz example

The relaxation corresponds to

$$E_{\text{eff}}(t, u) = \int_{-1}^1 \left(I_{[-1,1]}(u_x(x)) - f(t, x) u(x) \right) dx$$

The effective evolution:

$$u_t + \partial_u E_{\text{eff}}(t, u) \ni 0$$

Conjecture

(Conti-Ortiz (08))

$$u_\varepsilon \rightarrow u?$$

The Conti-Ortiz example

Minimizers of sc^-W_ε converge

$$sc^-W_\varepsilon(u_\varepsilon) \equiv \min \implies u_\varepsilon \rightarrow u$$

The Conti-Ortiz example

Minimizers of $\text{sc}^- W_\varepsilon$ converge

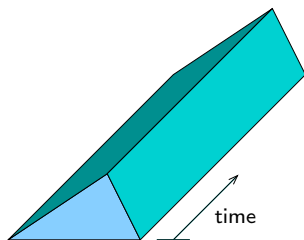
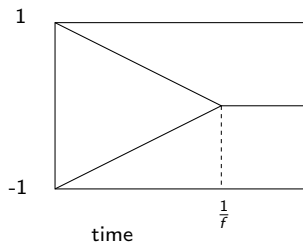
$$\text{sc}^- W_\varepsilon(u_\varepsilon) \equiv \min \implies u_\varepsilon \rightarrow u$$

Quasi-minimizers of W_ε converge

$$W_\varepsilon(v_\varepsilon) \leq \inf W_\varepsilon + \varepsilon^3 e^{-T/\varepsilon} \implies v_\varepsilon \rightarrow u$$

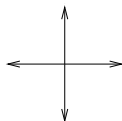
The Conti-Ortiz example

An illustration of microstructure evolution for a fixed $f > 0$



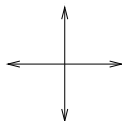
A second example by Conti-Ortiz

$$Q = [0, 1]^2, \quad K = \{(0, \pm 1), (\pm 1, 0)\} =$$



A second example by Conti-Ortiz

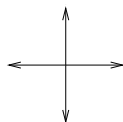
$$Q = [0, 1]^2, \quad K = \{(0, \pm 1), (\pm 1, 0)\} =$$



$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \begin{cases} \int_0^T \int_Q e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\frac{1}{2} u_t^2 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f u \right) dx dt & \text{if } \nabla u \in K \text{ a.e.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

A second example by Conti-Ortiz

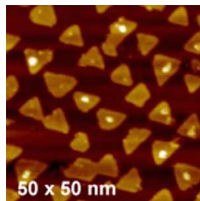
$$Q = [0, 1]^2, \quad K = \{(0, \pm 1), (\pm 1, 0)\} =$$



$$W_\varepsilon(u) = \begin{cases} \int_0^T \int_Q e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\frac{1}{2} u_t^2 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f u \right) dx dt & \text{if } \nabla u \in K \text{ a.e.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Roughening and coarsening in thin films
Ortiz, Repetto, Si (99)

(vanishing capillarity case)



A second example by Conti-Ortiz

The relaxation w.r.t. the weak topology of H^1 in $\{u(0, \cdot) = 0\}$ is

$$\text{sc}^- W_\varepsilon(u) = \begin{cases} \int_0^T \int_Q e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\frac{1}{2} u_t^2 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f u \right) dx dt & \text{if } \nabla u \in \text{co } K \text{ a.e.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

A second example by Conti-Ortiz

The relaxation w.r.t. the weak topology of H^1 in $\{u(0, \cdot) = 0\}$ is

$$\text{sc}^- W_\varepsilon(u) = \begin{cases} \int_0^T \int_Q e^{-t/\varepsilon} \left(\frac{1}{2} u_t^2 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f u \right) dx dt & \text{if } \nabla u \in \text{co} K \text{ a.e.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

which corresponds to

$$E_{\text{eff}}(t, u) = \int_Q \left(I_{\text{co}K}(\nabla u(x)) - f(t, x) u(x) \right) dx$$

A second example by Conti-Ortiz

Minimizers of sc^-W_ε converge

$$sc^-W_\varepsilon(u_\varepsilon) \equiv \min \implies u_\varepsilon \rightarrow u$$

A second example by Conti-Ortiz

Minimizers of $\text{sc}^- W_\varepsilon$ converge

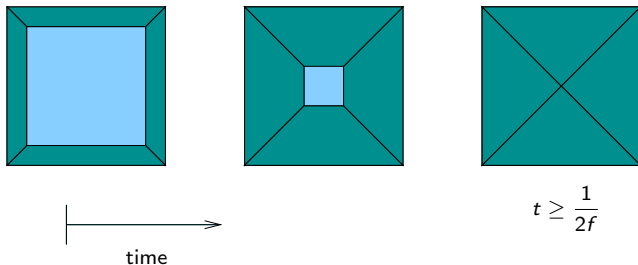
$$\text{sc}^- W_\varepsilon(u_\varepsilon) \equiv \min \implies u_\varepsilon \rightarrow u$$

Quasi-minimizers of W_ε converge

$$W_\varepsilon(v_\varepsilon) \leq \inf W_\varepsilon + \varepsilon^3 e^{-T/\varepsilon} \implies v_\varepsilon \rightarrow u$$

A second example by Conti-Ortiz

An illustration of microstructure evolution for a fixed $f > 0$



Conclusions

Conclusions

- Some variational principle for dissipative evolution ($1 \leq p < \infty$) are available among which the **WED principle** (aka elliptic regularization)

Conclusions

- Some variational principle for dissipative evolution ($1 \leq p < \infty$) are available among which the **WED principle** (aka elliptic regularization)
- The corresponding **minimizers converge** to the right limit by assuming a convex energy (for $p \neq 1$) and compactness (for $p \neq 2$)

Conclusions

- Some variational principle for dissipative evolution ($1 \leq p < \infty$) are available among which the **WED principle** (aka elliptic regularization)
- The corresponding **minimizers converge** to the right limit by assuming a convex energy (for $p \neq 1$) and compactness (for $p \neq 2$)
- The WED principle serves as a tool in connection with some example of **microstructure evolution**